

A NEW SPECIES OF *SACCOGLOSSUM* (ORCHIDACEAE)  
FROM THE HANS MEYER RANGE, NEW IRELAND,  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Saccoglossum takeuchii*, is described from the Hans Meyer Range in southern New Ireland, Papua New Guinea. The novelty is most closely related to *S. lanceolatum* L.O. Williams, but differs from the latter species in the size and shape of the petals, the lesser number of cilia-like stelids, the prominent dentation around the clinandrium, and by the differently shaped leaves.

ABSTRACT (MELANESIAN TOK PISIN)

Nupela kain orchid *Saccoglossum takeuchii*, ol bin kisim long Hans Meyer Range insait long Nu Ailan, Papua New Guinea, em ol bin deskraibim. Em I wankain long *Saccoglossum lanceolatum* L.O. Williams. Dispela em minim olsem long sais na saip long petals, na namba long stelids na dentations bilong clinandrium, na saip long lip.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Saccoglossum* is presently comprised of four taxa: *S. lanceolatum* L.O. Williams, *S. maculata* Schltr., *S. papuanum* Schltr., and *S. verrucosum* L.O. Williams. The latter species is recorded only from Irian Jaya whereas the others are known primarily from Papua New Guinea (PNG). O'Byrne (1994) suggested there are about 5 species and that some new ones could be expected from the PNG Highlands. In the orchid treatments for Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, and Bougainville (Lewis & Cribb 1989, 1991) no records are provided for *Saccoglossum*. The new species extends the generic range to New Ireland and apparently marks the easternmost limit for the genus. The Hans Meyer species is most closely related to *S. lanceolatum* L.O. Williams but differs in the size and shape of the petals, the structure of the clinandrium, and to a lesser extent the shape of the leaves.

***Saccoglossum takeuchii*** Howcroft, sp. nov. (**Fig. 1**). TYPUS: PAPUA NEW GUINEA. NEW IRELAND PROVINCE: Hans Meyer Range, 27 Jan 1994, W. Takeuchi & J. Wiakabu 9601, 27 Jan 1994 (HOLOTYPUS: LAE).

Species nova ad *Saccoglossum lanceolato* similans sed ab ea petalis ellipticis ad apices retusis ad bases subtruncatus, clinandrio stelidiis pauciora atque dentibus diversis praedentis perfacile distinguitur.

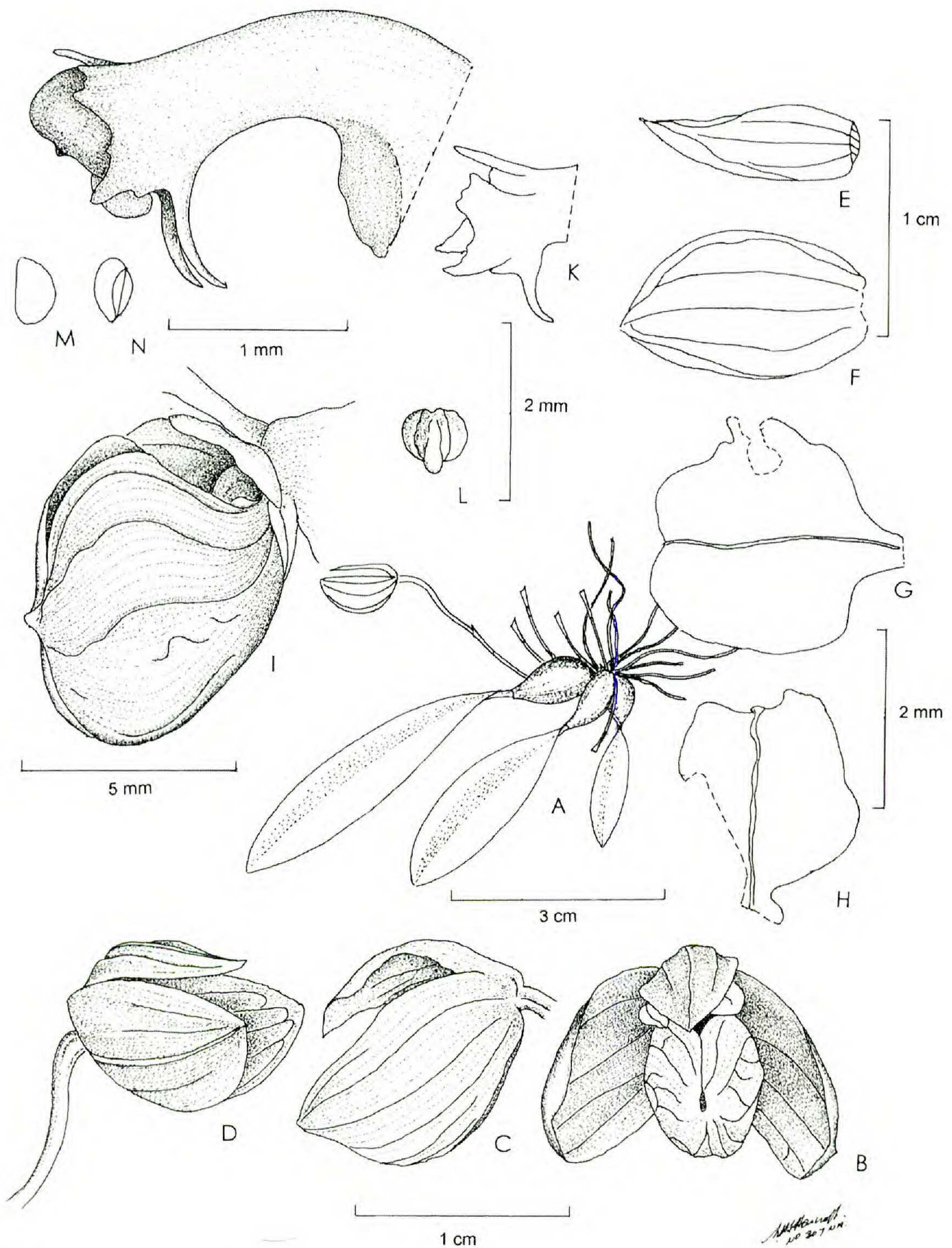


FIG. 1. *Saccoglossum takeuchi* (drawn from type material). A. Plant habit. B. Flower, front view. C–D. Flower lateral views. E–F. Dorsal and lateral sepals. G–H. Petals. I. Labellum, lateral view. J. Column with anther, lateral view. K. Column stelids, lateral view. L. Anther. M–N. Pollen, lateral and oblique ventral (scale as for L).

*Epiphyte*, erect to suberect, up to ca. 7 cm tall. *Rhizome* creeping, concealed by sheaths. *Pseudobulbs* obovoid, 1.25 to 1.5 cm long, up to 0.75 cm in diameter, unifoliate, surface smooth, yellow green. *Leaf* blade elliptic to lanceolate, 4.5–

5.5 × 1.0–1.7 cm, apically obtuse, base duplicative, sessile, surfaces glossy green, texture firm, costa impressed above. *Inflorescences* more or less fasciculate, lateral from base of the pseudobulb, erect, single flowered, peduncle short, 3.1–3.8 cm long, 0.2–0.3 mm in diameter, provided with a single sheath, glabrous. *Perianth* purple, glabrous; *dorsal sepal* ovate-lanceolate, 1.05 × 0.33–0.5 cm, slightly hooded, subacute; *lateral sepal* obliquely ovate, 1.18 × 0.66–0.70 cm, apiculate, glabrous; *petals* broadly obovate to obliquely quadrate, 0.28 × 0.24 cm, apically truncate, attenuate at base, glabrous, median nerve slightly raised and thickened; *labellum* saccate, 0.55–0.66 cm high, 0.55 cm broad, 0.78 cm long, front part incised; *column* arched, glabrous, thickened to the base and with a short, thick foot, ca. 0.24–0.25 cm long; *clinandrium* in two segments on either side, the lower with one cirrhose stolid on each side, the upper subpalmate with a subulate margin; *anther* cordate in outline with a raised, thickened keel, 0.07 × 0.08 cm; *ovary* with glabrous pedicel, ca. 1.3 cm long.

*Distribution*.—Known only from the Hans Meyer Range in New Ireland, Papua New Guinea.

*Habitat*.—Mossy montane forest on trees at ca. 1175 m elevation.

*Etymology*.—The new species has been named for Wayne Takeuchi, the principal collector of this orchid who submitted the type specimen to me for identification, together with many other orchids from New Ireland.

*Notes*.—The description and illustration of *Saccoglossum takeuchii* was made from spirit material. The new species differs in flower color from its congeners (based on Takeuchi's fieldnotes) and the floral parts are also smaller than those from previously described species.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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